

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN CHASE HIBBARD**, on January 15, 1999 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 437 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Chase Hibbard, Chairman (R)
Rep. Kim Gillan, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Bob Story, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Gary Beck (D)
Rep. Rick Dale (R)
Rep. Bob Davies (R)
Rep. Ron Erickson (D)
Rep. Daniel Fuchs (R)
Rep. Mary Anne Guggenheim (D)
Rep. Marian Hanson (R)
Rep. Hal Harper (D)
Rep. Dan Harrington (D)
Rep. John L. Holden (R)
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)
Rep. Bob Raney (D)
Rep. Bill Rehbein (R)
Rep. Sam Rose (R)
Rep. Trudi Schmidt (D)
Rep. Roger Somerville (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Scott J. Orr (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Donna Grace, Committee Secretary
Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted:

HB 168, 1/11/1999
HB 132, 1/11/1999
HB 166, 1/11/1999
HB 152, 1/6/1999

Executive Action: None.

HEARING ON HB 168

Sponsor:

Rep. Betty Kasten, House District 99, opened the hearing on HB 168. The bill would transfer the bad debt function from the Department of Administration to the Department of Revenue and allow the Department of Revenue to enter into reciprocal agreements for offset against tax refunds with the IRS and other states.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 2.8}

Proponents:

Mary Bryson, Director, Department of Revenue. **EXHIBIT**(tah11a01)
{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 7.3}

Lois Menzies, Director, Department of Administration.
{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 11.5}

Opponents:

Ken Rudio, Department of Administration.
{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 13.6}

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0.1}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Kasten closed the hearing.
{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 7.3}

HEARING ON HB 132

Sponsor:

Rep. Betty Kasten, HD 99, opened the hearing. The purpose of the legislation is to simplify the calculation of penalty and interest for all tax types by providing for standardized interest rates and penalties.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 10.1}

Proponents:

Neil Peterson, Department of Revenue. **EXHIBIT**(tah11a02)

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 11.4}

Opponents:

Cort Harrington, Montana County Treasurers' Association. *{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 19.3}*

Informational Witnesses:

None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 23.1}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Kasten closed the hearing.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 12.7}

HEARING ON HB 166

Sponsor:

Rep. Betty Kasten, HD 99, opened the hearing on HB 166. The legislation would unify and standardize the collection of taxes and other debts collected by the Department of Revenue. *{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 16.6}*

Proponents:

Neil Peterson, Department of Revenue. **EXHIBIT**(tah11a03)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 17.7}

Opponents:

Jim Smith, Montana Sheriffs' and Peace Officers' Association.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 1.8}

Tom Harrington, Montana Association of CPAs.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 5.5}

Written testimony submitted in opposition to HB 166.

EXHIBIT(tah11a04)

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 3}

Dennis Burr, Montana Taxpayers Association.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 3.2}

Lori Maloney, Clerk, District Court, Butte-Silverbow.

EXHIBIT(tah11a05)

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 13.9}

Nancy Sweeney, Clerk, District Court, Lewis and Clark County.

EXHIBIT(tah11a06)

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 15.3}

Additional exhibit submitted by Nancy Sweeney, **EXHIBIT**(tah11a07)

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 28.0}

Stuart Doggett, Montana Land Title Association.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 29.3}

William Gowen, Helena Abstract and Title Company.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0.0}

Informational Testimony:

Mary Anne Wellbank, Department of Health and Human Services,
CSED.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 1.5}

Mark Bryson, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 3.9}

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 5.5}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Kasten closed the hearing. She proposed an amendment prepared by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

EXHIBIT(tah11a08)

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 23.8}

HEARING ON HB 152

Sponsor:

Rep. Sheill Anderson, HD 25, presented the bill which would allow for the establishment of library districts.

{Tape : 10; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0.0}

Proponents:

Karen Strege, Montana State Librarian.*{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 3.2}*

Mike Schultz, Chairman, Montana State Library Commission.

EXHIBIT(tah11a09)

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 11.1}

Kathy McGowan, Montana Library Association.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 13.3}

Written testimony presented by Ms. McGowan from Joan Bishop.**EXHIBIT**(tah11a10)

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 14.3}

Bernadine Abbott-Hoduski.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 15}

Lois Fitzpatrick, Montana Library Association.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 16}

Janice Bradley, Lewistown Public Library. **EXHIBIT**(tah11a11)

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 16.5}

Opponents: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 23}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Anderson closed the hearing.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 20.6}

Adjourn.{*Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 22.4*}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:55 A.M.

REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman

DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG

EXHIBIT (tah11aad)